

Southeast Michigan is Changing:

Fact: SE MI is aging. Many seniors outlive their ability to drive.

Fact: Millennials are the largest generation.

Many can't afford to or prefer not to drive.

Fact: Employers follow these trends and invest where employees and customers want to live. Too often, that's not here.

Our current transit has too many gaps and limits to help the region thrive through these changes:

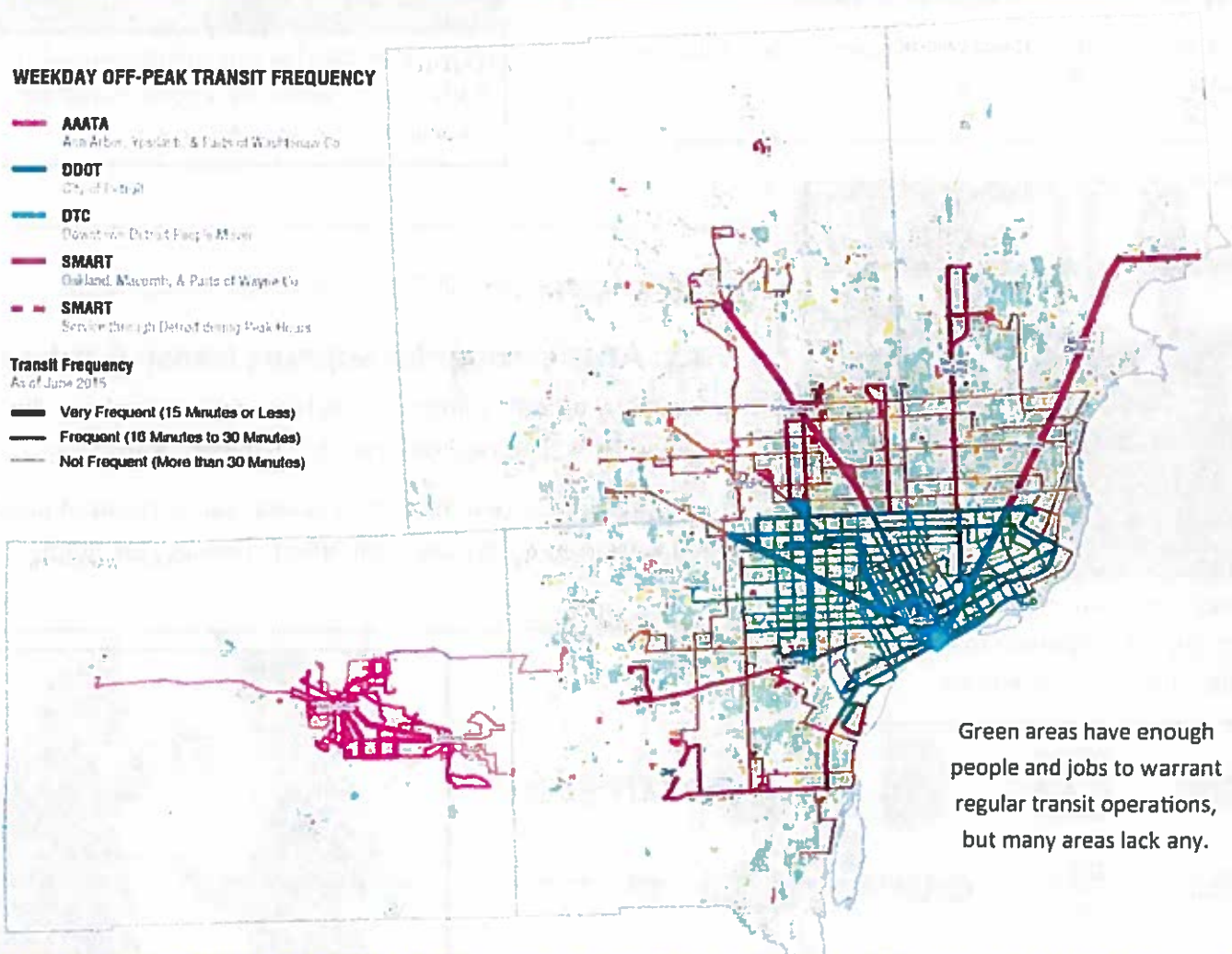
WEEKDAY OFF-PEAK TRANSIT FREQUENCY

- **AAATA**
Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, & Farmington Hills Co.
- **DDOT**
City of Detroit
- **DTC**
Downtown Detroit People Mover
- **SMART**
Oakland, Macomb, & Parts of Wayne Co.
- - - **SMART**
Service through Detroit during Peak Hours

Transit Frequency

As of June 2015

- **Very Frequent (15 Minutes or Less)**
- **Frequent (16 Minutes to 30 Minutes)**
- **Not Frequent (More than 30 Minutes)**



Green areas have enough people and jobs to warrant regular transit operations, but many areas lack any.

Transit provide a critical lifeline for 100,000 people.

But too many gaps exist. Far more is needed to serve the region's needs.

Transit Myths and Facts

Myth: Everyone around here drives.

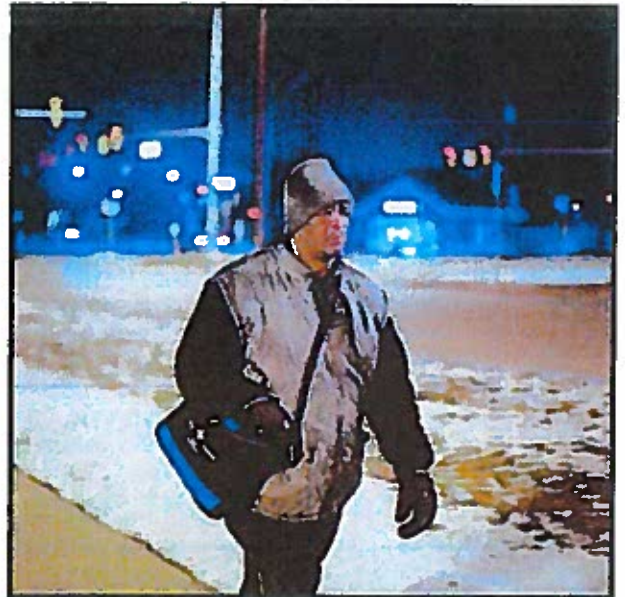
Fact: One-third of our society can't drive

because they are:

- ⇒ Too young
- ⇒ Too old - Most of us will outlive our ability to drive by 8 years.
- ⇒ Physically unable - due to a disability, vision problems, epilepsy, or even just a broken foot
- ⇒ Financially unable - It costs more than \$8,000 a year to own and operate a car; but just \$800 to ride transit.

Many more don't want to drive.

Only 60% of today's 18-year-olds have a driver's license, compared with 80% in the 1980s.



James Robertson became well-known as "The Walking Man" when our region's transit gaps left him walking 21 miles a day to work.



Technology matters more than cars to the 75% of millennials who prefer to live in a place where they do not need a car.

Myth: Transit is anti-car and anti-business.

Fact: Auto companies support transit funding,

as do many other leading business leaders (listed below who endorsed the 2016 regional transit ballot measure).

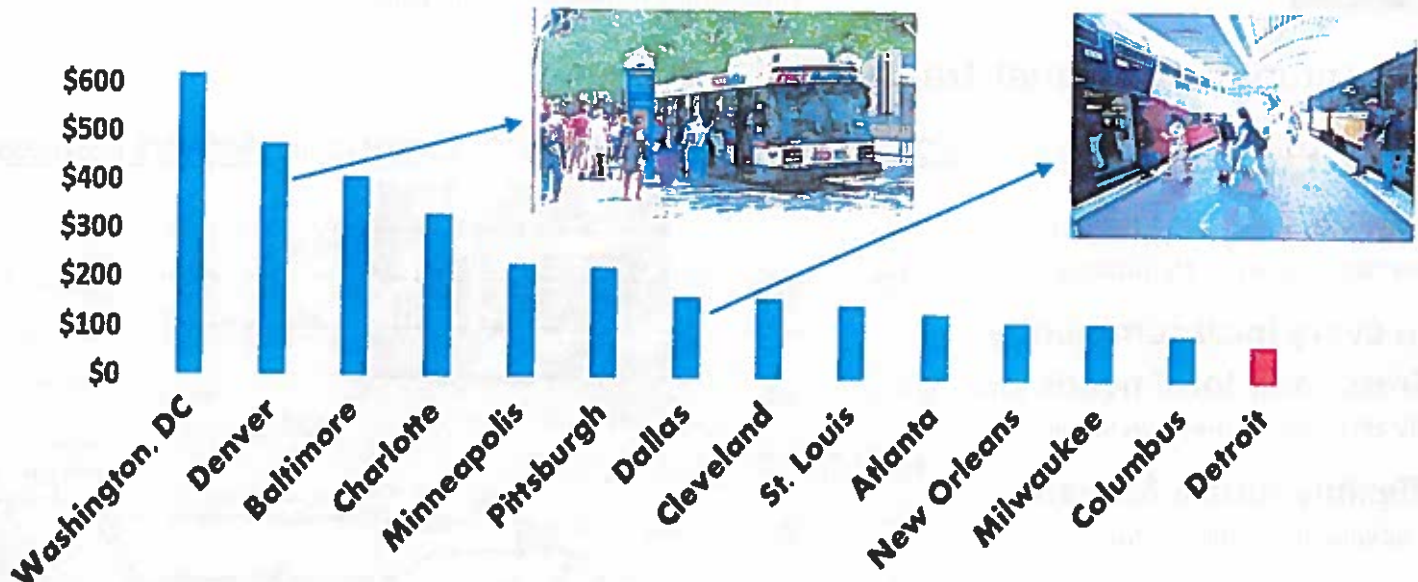
As Amazon's HQ2 requirements showed, young talented people want transit, so do the companies that compete for them.



Employers need reliable employees who can keep working even if their car can't.

What's holding us back? Public Investment.

Comparable metropolitan areas have more and better public transit.



Why? Because they invest in their region's transit,

as this chart of per capita annual regional investment in public transit shows.

We get what we pay for.



This information is provided by Transportation Riders United, a nonprofit group dedicated since 1999 to improving public transit throughout the greater Detroit region through education, engagement, and advocacy.

While we serve as advisors to the Regional Transit Authority (RTA), we do not represent or speak for the RTA or any other agency.

Learn more, support this important work, and get involved fighting for better transit at:

www.DetroitTransit.org

Facebook @Support Detroit Transit

Twitter @DetroitTransit

313-963-8872



We Can Do Better!



**REGIONAL
TRANSIT AUTHORITY**
OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

The RTA was created by state law in 2012 to coordinate the region's transit providers and to develop plans to address important transit flaws and gaps.

The newly proposed **Regional Transit Plan** would:

- ⇒ **Connect to more places**, with a **Commuter Train**, **Commuter Express** and **Airport Express**
- ⇒ **Run more frequently** with **15 routes running every 15 minutes!**
- ⇒ **Help every local community address their local needs** with locally-directed Hometown Service
- ⇒ **Be flexibly future-forward** with advanced mobility pilots.



Funding to implement the previous transit plan was narrowly defeated by voters in November 2016, 49.5% to 50.5%.

The RTA and county leaders are evaluating this plan and exploring how to bring transit funding back before voters.
Share your ideas and stay tuned for what happens next at DetroitTransit.org.